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INFORMATION REPORT

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DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] 25X1A

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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25X1X 1. Al-Bashir (The Herald), Cairo Arabic weekly edited by Mahmud Fathi al-Ramli, carried the following notice prominently displayed in a "frame" on page 3 of its issue No. 380 of 17 June 1950:

"To the Supporters of Peace,

"The Permanent Committee of the Peace Congress during its last session in Stockholm in March, issued an appeal to all people of good intention to join in signing. This was signed by tens of millions of supporters of peace in the world. We publish this below for the signature of the largest possible number of readers of Al-Bashir, to be returned to us at Post Box 36, Cairo.

Appeal For Peace

"We demand the complete outlawing of atomic armament, the armament of terrorism and mass extermination. We demand the setting up of strict international supervision to insure the application of this measure of abolition. We consider the first government to start using atom armament against any other people as committing a crime against humanity and it will be treated as a war criminal.

Signature.....

Address.....

Two news items printed beside the notice read as follows:

8. "The re-forming of the Society of Peace Supporters which existed in Egypt more than 10 years ago is being considered..."

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[illegible]

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- b. "Bindari Pasha,** in a recent declaration, said that he 'will pursue his campaign against any imperialism and foreign and local exploitation' and that he extends his hand to every Egyptian who wishes to cooperate with him in achieving this end."

At the bottom of page 3, on either side of the notice were two "framed" slogans in large type:

Insert right - "The Struggle against Imperialism is the Struggle against War."

Insert left - "Do away with War before it does away with you."

2. Questioned on the subject of the "Society of the Supporters of Peace" (Gam'iyyah Ansar al-Salam), a former leading Egyptian Communist described it as an international body, its members being Frenchmen and Egyptians in Paris, and Egyptians in Cairo and Alexandria. He said that it had been founded by the French Socialist Party and had been patronized by French women working for peace. According to him, it was launched in Cairo about 10 years ago by (Mme.) Fatimah Na'imat Rashid, President of the Feminist Party (Hizb al-Nisa'i al-Misri), with the support of Zainab al-Hakim, Dr. Mahmud Azmi, Dr. Muhammad Mandur, and Zuhair Sabri. Mme. Rashid, according to him, was now trying to resuscitate the Society under the inspiration of Muhammad Kamal Bindari Pasha, lately Egyptian Ambassador in Moscow, who appeared to be closely connected with it, the immediate impetus being derived from the Stockholm Appeal. In conclusion, the former Communist remarked that Mme. Rashid was believed also to be in touch with a number of young Libyans who might well be carrying out propaganda on behalf of the Society in their country.

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3. [REDACTED] of the persons mentioned in paragraph 2, Mme. Rashid is a former president of the Egyptian Feminist Party, and although this is a "progressive" organization, she cannot be said ever to have been a Communist; even her connection with this Party is no longer certain. In the Egyptian Directory for 1950 she is described as president of the Association of Women Journalists in Egypt, and owner of the review Chic. [REDACTED] Dr. Azmi has not come to notice since 1948, although he was previously regarded as a Communist; the same applies to Dr. Mandur. Zuhair Sabri has a long record as a Communist theorist, but he again had not come to notice since 1947, until April of 1950, when the Cairo Arabic weekly Al-Ithnain announced that he was to publish a new review, Al-Sindan (The Anvil), which was to be the mouthpiece of Egyptian Socialism; the first issue has not yet appeared.

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- 25X1A** [REDACTED] Comment. The Special Section of the Egyptian Ministry of Interior was worried recently by Bindari's activities in connection with pro-Soviet propaganda.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comments. 25X1X

- a. If, [REDACTED] the "Society of the Supporters of Peace" is a local manifestation of the Partisans for Peace, the communist-front organization, it is hard to reconcile the statement made in al-Bashir [REDACTED], regarding the date of foundation, with the facts. We have no record of such a society ever having existed in Egypt.
- 25X1X
- b. Mme. Rashid has for several years been prominently connected with the Feminist Party. Dr. Azmi, Dr. Mandur, and Zuhair Sabri were at one time active Communists.

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c. [REDACTED] the "Society of the Supporters of Peace" is a local manifestation of the Partisans of Peace on the evidence of the notice in al-Bashir and on the fact that the word "Ansar" could also be translated "Partisans" in the sense in which that word is now being used. [REDACTED] 25X1X

25X1X [REDACTED] there is no evidence to support the statement in paragraph 2 that this Society was founded ten years ago, or that the persons mentioned in that paragraph have in fact any connection with it.

25X1X [REDACTED] this statement was made to indicate that this Society is not entirely communist-sponsored, and he thinks it possible that Mahmud Fathi al-Ramli may himself be the moving spirit behind it.

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